

July 3, 2001

**PRIVATE DUTY NURSING, PERSONAL
ASSISTANCE, HOME & COMMUNITY BASED
SERVICES, PHYSICIANS, AND MID-LEVEL
PRACTITIONER PROVIDERS
MONTANA MEDICAID NOTICE**

On April 30, 2001, Governor Martz signed into law House Bill 510. The law exempts from the authority of the Board of Nursing the provision of nutrition, supplements or medication through gastronomy or jejunostomy tube when administered by a volunteer or compensated person acting at the direction of and with training from the individual or guardian. The bill does not redefine the scope of skilled nursing. Nurses may still provide these services and in doing so they will be delivering skilled nursing services.

The following are options available to those individuals receiving nutrition, supplements or medication through gastronomy or jejunostomy tube.

- 1) The individual or legal guardian may continue to use a private duty nurse to administer nutrition, supplements or medication through gastronomy or jejunostomy feedings. Medicaid's reimbursement mechanism will remain the same.
- 2) The individual or legal guardian may choose to manage the administration of nutrition, supplements or medication through gastronomy or jejunostomy tube feedings by utilizing a non-medical person. This will be a non-compensated volunteer.
- 3) The individual or legal guardian may choose the Medicaid personal assistance program to assist in the administration of nutrition, supplements or medication through gastronomy or jejunostomy tube feedings. Medicaid's personal assistance program operates through a home care agency. Personal care assistants are non-licensed persons employed by a home care agency. Medicaid's personal assistance program will reimburse these home care agencies for this service. If the individual or legal guardian is interested in the personal assistance program they will need to contact Mountain-Pacific Quality Health Foundation at 1-800-236-5767. A nurse from the Foundation will make an onsite visit to determine the scope and amount of services available under this program.

For your convenience a copy of the House Bill 510 is enclosed.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please call Provider Relations at:

Helena and out-of-state: (406) 442-1837
In-state toll-free: 1-800-624-3958